

# **FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** October 9, 2014

**Agenda Item:** Sheep Mountain FAS - Temporary Construction Closure

**Division:** Fisheries

**Action Needed:** Proposed

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 5 minutes

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## **Background**

The Sheep Mountain FAS is located in Park County on the Yellowstone River, five miles east of Highway 89. The road leading into the fishing access crosses an irrigation canal operated by a neighboring landowner. The canal crossing consists of two 48-inch culverts, which lay within the irrigation canal. The culverts were originally installed by FWP about 20 years ago and are in a deteriorated condition requiring replacement. A retracement of the property boundaries was made to confirm that the access road and irrigation canal crossing are on FWP property.

The proposed project is to replace the culverts with concrete footings and abutments and install wooden trusses and bridge decking. FWP feels this type of structure will be better suited to the needs of both the sportsmen and the landowner who accesses his agricultural property on either side of FWP lands. Additionally, it will be more cost effective over a longer period of time. The project also requires the FAS to close for 30 days during construction. A closure is suggested for November 2014.

## **Public Involvement Process & Results**

The public will be notified of the closure through FWP's website and signage at the FAS.

## **Alternatives and Analysis**

An environmental assessment is not required for major maintenance activity.

## **Agency Recommendation & Rationale**

FWP recommends that the project be approved with authorization for a 30-day closure, and that work be completed by the end of November 2014.

## **Proposed Motion**

I move that the Commission approve the temporary construction closure of the Sheep Mountain FAS for a period of up to 30-days within the months of October and November.